



HR0263

LRB095 11771 MST 34653 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the
3 State of Illinois would like to congratulate Sgt. 1st Class
4 Randy Henk of Elgin on his homecoming from the front lines in
5 Iraq; and

6 WHEREAS, Sgt. Henk was first introduced to the Elgin
7 Courier News readers while stationed in Bosnia in 1996, where
8 he wrote letters to the editor about his experiences there, and
9 later as part of the NATO peacekeeping mission in Kosovo; and

10 WHEREAS, In January 2006, Sgt. Henk began to write about
11 his experiences while stationed in Iraq in Ramadi and Hit;
12 these stories were published on Saturdays under the heading
13 "Letters to the Homefront"; and

14 WHEREAS, These letters brought home to readers the
15 desperate and dangerous situation that soldiers faced every
16 day; people gathered in small groups on Saturday nights to
17 discuss that day's column; Sgt. Henk received so many emails
18 from readers that he could not answer them all, and when a
19 mission occupied so much of his time that he could not file a
20 report that week, the Courier News was flooded with calls from
21 readers concerned about his well-being; and

1 WHEREAS, Courier News readers in turn supported Sgt. Henk
2 and his fellow troops by donating 25 grocery boxes of items and
3 more than \$1,000 to the cause; and

4 WHEREAS, A public reception for Sgt. Henk will be held on
5 Sunday, April 1, at the Heritage Ballroom at The Centre of
6 Elgin; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 congratulate Sgt. 1st Class Randy Henk on his homecoming and
10 thank him for his service to his country; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to Sgt. 1st Class Randy Henk.